

103D CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 831

To establish the Environmental Financial Advisory Board in statute, and  
for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 27 (legislative day, APRIL 19), 1993

Mr. MOYNIHAN (for himself and Mr. DOMENICI) introduced the following bill;  
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and  
Public Works

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## A BILL

To establish the Environmental Financial Advisory Board  
in statute, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Environmental Fi-  
5       nance Act of 1993”.

6       **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7       (a) It is the purpose of this Act to require the estab-  
8       lishment of an Environmental Financial Advisory Board  
9       (hereinafter referred to as “the Board”) to provide expert  
10      advice and recommendations to the Administrator of the

1 Environmental Protection Agency (hereinafter referred to  
2 as “the Administrator”) and to the Congress on issues,  
3 trends, options, innovations, and tax matters affecting the  
4 cost and financing of environmental protection by State  
5 and local governments. The Committee shall study meth-  
6 ods to lower costs of environmental infrastructure and  
7 services, increase investment in public and private purpose  
8 environmental infrastructure, and build State and local ca-  
9 pacity to plan and pay for environmental infrastructure  
10 and services.

11 (b) It is the further purpose of the Act to require  
12 the Administrator to establish and support Environmental  
13 Finance Centers in institutions of higher learning. These  
14 centers shall serve to improve the capability of State and  
15 local governments to manage environmental programs.  
16 The Environmental Finance Centers shall receive Federal  
17 funding at first with the goal that they eventually become  
18 financially self sufficient.

19 **SEC. 3. ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCIAL ADVISORY BOARD.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—

21 (1) The Administrator shall establish an Envi-  
22 ronmental Financial Advisory Board to provide ex-  
23 pert advice on issues affecting the costs and financ-  
24 ing of environmental activities at the Federal, State,  
25 and local level. The Board shall report to the Ad-

1        administrator, and shall make its services and exper-  
2        tise available to the appropriate Committees of Con-  
3        gress.

4            (2) The Board shall consist of thirty-five mem-  
5        bers selected by the Administrator. The members of  
6        the Board shall each serve for a term of two years,  
7        except that twenty of the members initially ap-  
8        pointed to the Board shall serve for a term of one  
9        year. The members of the Board shall be persons  
10       with expertise in financial matters and shall be cho-  
11       sen from among elected officials, national trade and  
12       environmental organizations, the finance, banking,  
13       and legal communities, business and industry, and  
14       academia. The members of the Board shall elect a  
15       Chair and Vice-Chair, who shall each serve a term  
16       of two years.

17            (3) After establishing appropriate rules and  
18        procedures for its operations, the Board shall—

19            (A) work with the Environmental Protec-  
20        tion Agency's Science Advisory Board to iden-  
21        tify and develop methods to integrate risk and  
22        finance considerations into environmental deci-  
23        sionmaking;

24            (B) identify and examine strategies to en-  
25        hance environmental protection in urban areas,

1 reduce disproportionate risk facing urban com-  
2 munities, and promote economic revitalization  
3 and environmentally sustainable development;

4 (C) develop and recommend initiatives to  
5 expand opportunities for the export of United  
6 States financial services and environmental  
7 technologies;

8 (D) develop alternative financing mecha-  
9 nisms to assist State and local governments in  
10 paying for environmental programs;

11 (E) develop alternative financing mecha-  
12 nisms and strategies to meet the unique needs  
13 of small and economically disadvantaged com-  
14 munities; and

15 (F) undertake such other activities as the  
16 Board determines will further the purposes of  
17 this Act.

18 (4) The Board may recommend to the Adminis-  
19 trator and to the Congress legislative and policy ini-  
20 tiatives to make financing for environmental protec-  
21 tion more available and less costly.

22 (5) The Board shall hold open meetings and  
23 seek input from the public and other interested par-  
24 ties in accordance with provisions of the Federal Ad-  
25 visory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. Supp., App.), and

1 shall otherwise be subject to the provisions of such  
2 Act.

3 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
4 authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$1,000,000 for  
5 each of the fiscal years 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, and 1998  
6 to carry out this section.

7 **SEC. 4. ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE CENTERS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall establish  
9 and support Environmental Finance Centers in each of  
10 the ten Federal regions. These centers shall coordinate  
11 their activities with the Board, and are authorized to—

12 (1) provide on- and off-site training of State  
13 and local officials;

14 (2) publish newsletters, course materials, pro-  
15 ceedings, and other publications relating to financing  
16 of environmental infrastructure;

17 (3) initiate and conduct conferences, seminars,  
18 and advisory panels on specific finance issues relat-  
19 ing to environmental programs and projects;

20 (4) establish electronic database and contact  
21 services to disseminate information to public entities  
22 on financing alternatives for State and local environ-  
23 mental programs;

24 (5) generate case studies and special reports;

1           (6) develop inventories and surveys of financial  
2       issues and needs of State and local governments;

3           (7) identify financial programs, initiatives, and  
4       alternative financing mechanisms for training  
5       purposes;

6           (8) hold public meetings on finance issues; and

7           (9) collaborate with one another on projects and  
8       exchange information.

9       (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
10   authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$2,500,000 for  
11   each of the fiscal years 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, and 1998  
12   for the Environmental Finance Center program estab-  
13   lished pursuant to this section. The Administrator is au-  
14   thorized to grant such funds to institutions of higher  
15   learning to carry out the provisions of this section.

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